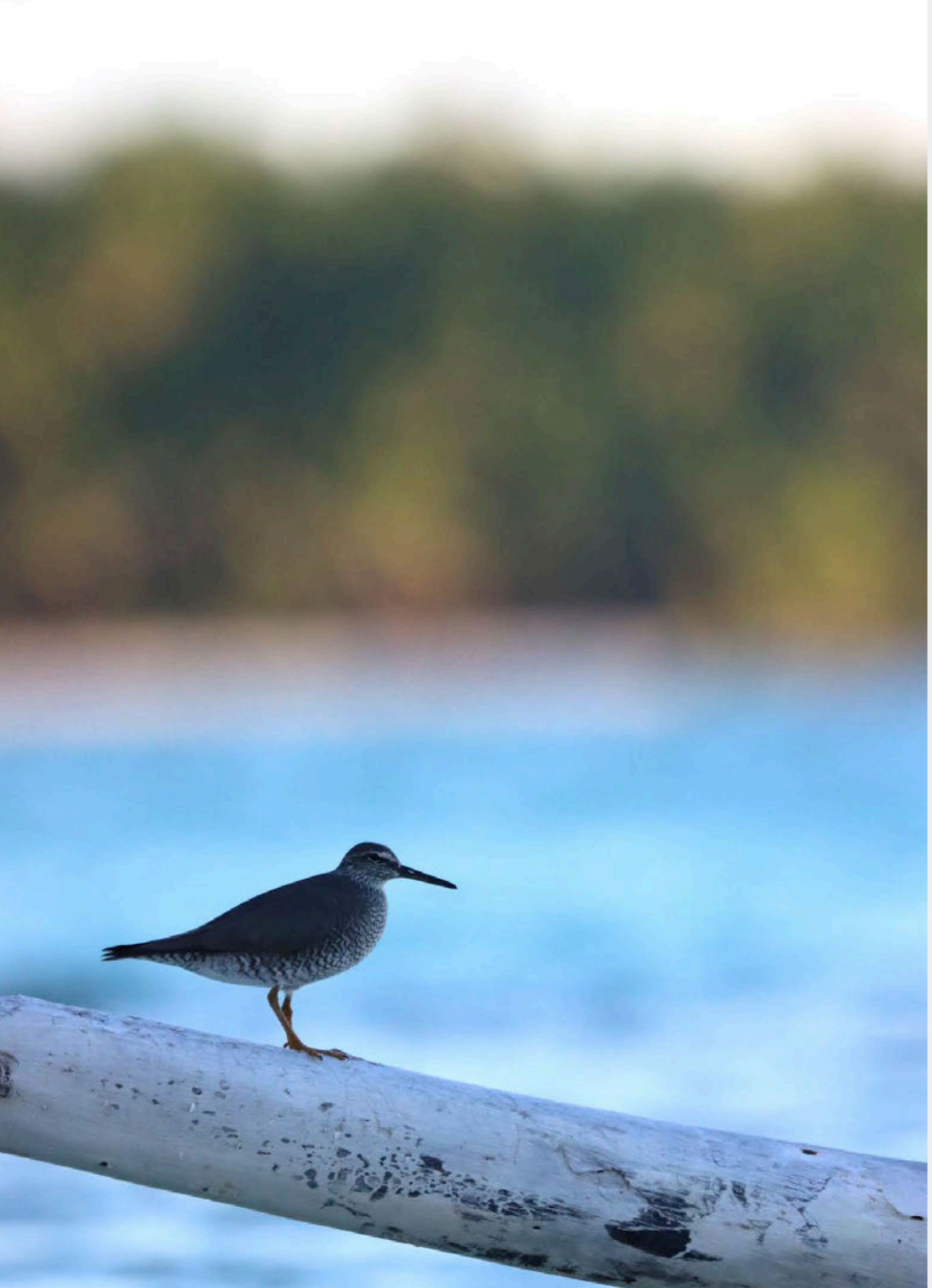
SECOND

QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT - TSFP 2025

April - May - June

TETIAROA SOCIETY



AT THE HEART OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF TETIAROA — A QUARTER MARKED BY UNOC

This second quarterly report continues our commitment to sharing the life of Tetiaroa Society with transparency and regularity. It reflects a particularly busy quarter, marked by field projects but also by a major international impact: our participation in UNOC 2025 – the United Nations Ocean Conference.

In June, Tetiaroa's voice reached Nice to contribute to a global mobilization in favor of the ocean. A strong, collective presence highlighted the actions carried out on the atoll and in the Pacific, alongside our scientific, institutional, and community partners.

At the same time, beyond this global highlight, Tetiaroa saw the continuation of our Research and Conservation, Educational Hosting, Scientific Monitoring, and Local Cooperation missions. This report looks back at key initiatives that illustrate the richness and daily commitment of the teams on the ground.

Thank you for continuing to follow us on this human and environmental adventure. Through this format, we hope to convey to you not only the results of our work, but also the spirit of collaboration and responsibility that drives it.

TETIAROA SOCIETY

SUMMARY

ECOSTATION

A living laboratory

TETIAROA SOCIETY

Use of the Ecostation and the Life Base

Since May 2025, the Tetiaroa Ecostation has undergone a controlled transition dynamic, marked by the arrival of Mr. Vaitea IZAL as the new Ecostation Manager (on May 15th, 2025). After a phase of support by the operations team, his gradual assumption of office will be finalized on July 11th, thus ensuring smooth continuity in the management of activities.

Contractual objectives fully achieved

In accordance with the "Perpetual Use Agreement", the contractual commitments for the second quarter of 2025 have been fully respected:

- The Ecostation was used for scientific or educational purposes at least 15 days per month, throughout the term.
- A representative was present on site more than 20 days per month, ensuring constant monitoring.

These results already cover 101% of the annual objective for scientific and educational use, and 75% of that relating to physical presence.

Accommodation for Ecostation users in 2025

	Q1	Apr.	May	Jun.	Q2	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Q3	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Q4	Total	Goals
Ecostation's operational days	**90**	30	31	30	**91**	31	31	30	**92**	31	30	31	**92**	**365**	180
Manager or user on-site days	**90**	30	31	30	**91**	31	31	30	**92**	31	30	31	**92**	**365**	240
Monthly bed availability	**1 620**	540	558	540	**1 638**	558	558	540	**1656**	558	540	558	**1656**	**6 570**	4 000
Daily users per month (Ecostation)	**653**	104	137	75	**316**	122	66	30	**218**	68	69	16	**153**	**1 340**	**2 969**
Daily users per month (Base Vie)	**915**	150	368	9	**527**	25	0	162	**187**	0	0	0	**0**	**1 629**	
Occupancy rate (Nb Users/Nb Bed)	97%	47%	91%	16%	**51%**	26%	12%	36%	**24%**	12%	13%	3%	**9%**	**45%**	
Programs/days average	**2,7**	2,2	1,8	1,8	**2,0**	0,8	1,0	0,7	**0,8**	0,9	0,6	0,3	**0,6**	**1,1**	
Daily users average	17,42	8,47	16,29	2,80	9,26	4,74	2,13	6,40	4,40	2,19	2,30	0,52	1,66	**5,6**	
						Forecast									

Ecostation Perpetual Use agreement : Goals

1. Ensure that the Ecostation is used for research or educational purposes at least 15 days/mont	101%	Q2 2025
2. Ensure that a manager, researcher, student or other person is physically present at the Ecostation 20 days/month	75%	

Site occupancy rate

Over the 91 days of the second quarter, the Écostation was occupied continuously, 7 days a week, ensuring a permanent presence and supervision.

The overall occupancy rate stands at 51%:

- A remarkable peak in May (91%), thanks to the arrival of several educational groups for a total of 316 nights in Ecostation and 527 nights in Base Vie out of 1638 nights available.
- In April (47%) and June (16%), activity was more moderate, mainly due to external cancellations, such as that of the Sacré Cœur college program, disrupted by weather conditions.

Constant educational dynamics

Despite these unforeseen events and the vagaries of the weather, an average of two programs were hosted each month. This figure demonstrates the site's vitality, the team's dedication, and the platform's suitability for hosting research, awareness-raising, and learning projects rooted in the living world.

Complementary and logistical activities

Teams mobilized to serve field missions

The Écostation welcomed several actors involved in raising awareness of the environment and the management of the atoll.

Trained naturalist guides were present throughout the quarter to accompany visitors in discovering Tetiaroa's ecosystems.

Welcoming external specialists also made it possible to support one-off activities, such as marine observation and technical maintenance of equipment. These collaborations contribute to the site's sustainable management dynamics.

A reinforced workspace for scientific and educational projects

In June, the Écostation was reorganized to improve the reception conditions for researchers, educators and partners.

The development of new workstations, the optimization of the storage of technical equipment and the reorganization of the scientific library aim to create a more fluid environment, conducive to research, training and the co-construction of projects.

Outlook for the coming months

In the coming months, the Tetiaroa Society hopes to further expand the uses of the Écostation by relaunching educational and scientific partnerships.

Targeted actions will be carried out to welcome new groups (students, researchers, artists or naturalists) and strengthen the visibility of the opportunities offered by the platform.

A brochure dedicated to Écostation, testimonials of experience, as well as a programming calendar will be distributed at the start of the school year, in order to encourage the emergence of new projects on a local and international scale.

RESEARCH & CONSERVATION

Scientific program

TETIAROA SOCIETY

RESEARCH

CONSERVATION

1 EFFECTS OF RAT ERADICATION ON TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS OF TETIAROA

Grey-backed tern

Collaborators: *Jayna DeVore - research engineer, (UPF - UMR SECOPOL, Tahiti), Simon Ducatez, (IRD - UMR SECOPOL, Tahiti), Martin Emma, UPF student*

Affiliation: *Tetiaroa Society, University of Washington*

Authors: *DeVore Jayna @ Ducatez Simon*

Date of stay: *May 16 to 25, 2025*

Number of users: *3*

Main objective(s)

This project seeks to understand how the presence of rats, yellow crazy ants, and coconut palms influences land crabs, seabirds, and the overall balance of the motu's terrestrial ecosystem. Researchers are particularly interested in how seabirds enrich the soil with nitrogen in different locations and seasons, and how crab communities evolve once invasive species are eliminated.

The goal is to see if, after the rats are eradicated, the crabs take over certain ecological roles (such as decomposing litter or dispersing seeds), and if seabirds return in greater numbers, bringing more nutrients to the soil.

Summary of field activities

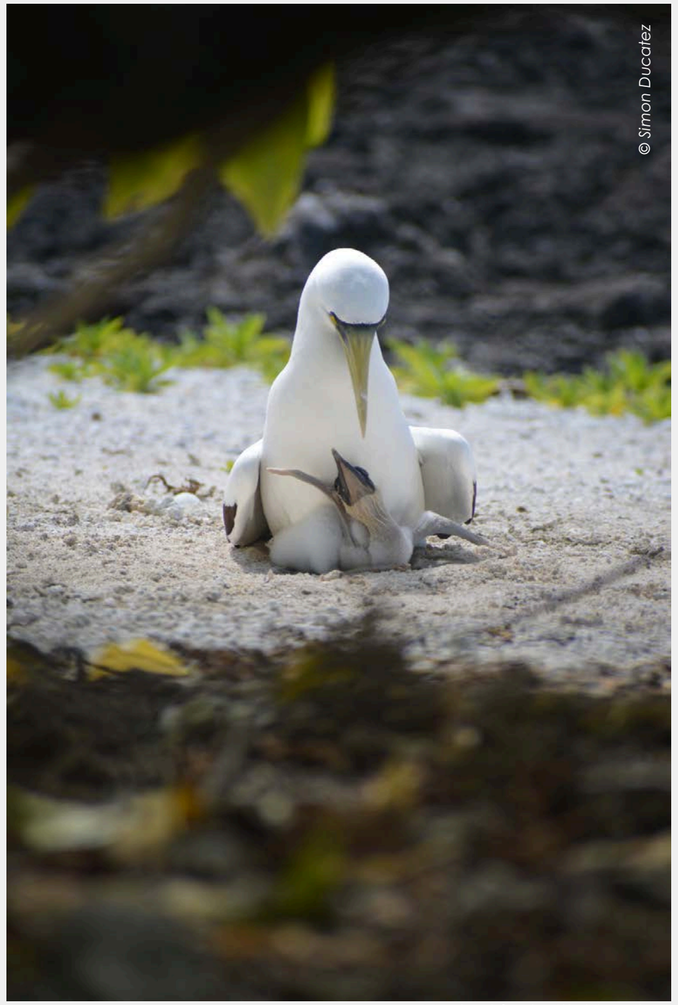
In May 2025, a quarterly seabird survey was conducted over approximately 35 km of transects covering the atoll's 11 motu (excluding the hotel area). Observations included counting nests, eggs, chicks, juveniles, and adults, as well as the types of trees used for nesting. Checks were also carried out on the rings present on certain individuals, particularly brown boobies, and the data were transmitted to the University of Washington.

A set of camera traps was maintained to monitor the breeding of white terns, brown noddies, great crested terns, grey-backed terns, frigatebirds, and masked boobies. An additional camera was installed on a new masked booby nest, allowing for a fourth successful hatching since rat eradication. Brown boobies were captured in partnership with an international research team to be ringed, measured, and fitted with tracking tags.

Feathers and eggshells were collected from dead and newly hatched birds. These samples were sent for isotopic analysis (nitrogen, carbon) and to measure mercury levels, as part of a study on the contamination of marine predators worldwide.

Monitoring of land crabs was carried out along the transects, with a daytime count of visible individuals and observations of their feeding or reproductive behavior.

Finally, a study of tahinu (Heliotropium arboreum) was continued at 20 sites across the atoll. Measurements included leaf growth, leaf replacement, herbivory rates, and herbivorous insect density. These surveys were conducted by a master's student from the Bordeaux School of Agronomy.



Masked fool with his cub

Preliminary results

Find out more about this project

Several notable observations were made during this mission:

- **A fourth masked booby** birth has been confirmed, again at the same nesting site.
- **Ghost crabs have been heard calling in their burrows,** a rare behavior that has been little studied, and the conditions of its occurrence (moon, time, season, etc.) are currently being thoroughly documented.
- **An unprecedented nesting phenomenon of grey-backed terns** has been observed, with several dozen pairs settling in at the same time. Unfortunately, these colonies have settled in an area exposed to swell and disturbances caused by visitors.
- **A strong presence of birds was observed,** much greater than in the previous two years. After the disruptions linked to an epidemic (2023) and El Niño (2024), this season could represent a return to favorable conditions.
- **The new images from the camera traps** should provide a better understanding of the breeding behavior of crested terns and grey-backed terns, two species that are still poorly documented on the atoll.

Masked Madman

Perspectives

Monitoring of bird and crab populations will continue quarterly, with missions planned for August and November 2025. Monitoring of the breeding success of seabirds will be maintained using camera traps.

In July 2025, capture-mark-recapture sessions will be conducted on ghost crabs to study the evolution of their populations and their morphological characteristics since the eradication of rats. Similar operations are planned for hermit crabs to estimate their densities and observe the exchange of shells between individuals depending on the site.
A detailed characterization of the habitat will also be carried out on the 350 transects used for bird monitoring over the past four years. This step will provide a better understanding of the species' preferences for nesting trees.

Grey-backed tern

2

BASELINE STUDY OF SEABIRD POPULATIONS ON TETIAROA ATOLL

Measuring and marking brown booby babies

Collaborateurs : *Gardner Beth, Associate Professor (University of Washington), Converse Sarah, Associate Professor (University of Washington), Ho Cameron, Undergraduate Student*

Affiliation: *Tetiaroa Society, Institute of Research for Development (IRD)*

Author: *Beth Gardner*

Date of stay: *from May 12 to 21, 2025*

Number of users: *2*

Main objective(s)

Find out more about this project

This program aims to better understand the seabirds of Tetiaroa: where they live, how they use the different motu, how many there are, and whether they succeed in reproducing.

For this, several tools are used:

- rings to track certain birds individually,
- field counts to estimate their number,
- sound recorders to detect their presence even when they are not visible, and GPS tags placed on the brown boobies to know where they go to look for food around Tahiti, Moorea, or even further afield.

This monitoring allows us to better understand the health of Tetiaroa's seabird populations and the links between terrestrial and marine areas.

Measuring and marking brown booby babies

Summary of field activities

During the mission from May 12 to 21, 2025, two people carried out several activities on the motu, with work concentrated on Tahuna Iti, Tiara'aunu and Horoāterā.

The main actions were:

- the installation of new GPS tags on brown boobies,
- verification of sound recorders already installed on all motu,
- brown booby nest counts along a 1 km transect at Horoāterā (noting eggs, chicks, etc.),
- the installation of 5 cameras on the nests, to discreetly monitor reproduction.

Days were spent entirely in the field, often on foot or by kayak, and evenings were spent recharging equipment, backing up data, and preparing for the next day. The logistical support of the Tetiaroa Society was essential to the success of this mission.

Impacts and preliminary results

Analyses are still ongoing, but several initial results are encouraging:

- It appears that the El Niño phenomenon has an effect on the breeding success of brown boobies and on the number of red-footed boobies nests, which confirms expected hypotheses.
- GPS data shows that some brown boobies regularly feed around Tahiti and Moorea, which will soon be explored in more detail using statistical models.
- Two notable observations: a brown booby was tracked to Ra'iātea, another to Mai'ao, showing the great mobility of these birds.

Perspectives

The program will continue with the same tools and methods (ringing, GPS, acoustics, counts, nest monitoring).

It is also planned:

- to extend GPS tracking to other species, such as certain terns,
- to launch the complete analysis of sound recordings collected since 2019, to better understand long-term trends in the presence and activity of seabirds in Tetiaroa

3

TETIAROA AELIMIN+

Release of male Aedes aegypti by Karine

Collaborators: *Hervé Bossin, Director of the medical entomology laboratory, Jérôme Marie, entomology engineer, Karine Wong-Sung, field assistant based in Tetiaroa*

Affiliation: *Tetiaroa Society, Hotel The Brando*

Author: *Hervé Bossin & Jérôme Marie*

Date of stay: *every week from Monday to Friday*

Number of users: *1*

Main objective(s)

Find out more about this project

The AeLIMIN+ program, led by the Louis Malardé Institute in partnership with the Tetiaroa Society and The Brando Hotel, aims to eliminate the Aedes polynesiensis and *Aedes aegypti* mosquito populations on certain motu of Tetiaroa, particularly Onetahi and Honuea. To achieve this, two innovative and environmentally friendly techniques are used:

- the Incompatible Insect Technique (T2I), which consists of releasing male *Aedes polynesiensis* mosquitoes each week, carrying a bacterium (*Wolbachia*) which makes them incompatible with local females;
- the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT), launched in 2025 in response to the appearance of nuisances linked to *Aedes aegypti*, which is based on the weekly release of males rendered sterile.

The program also combines the reduction of larval breeding sites (especially around the hotel), the installation of traps on solar panels, and awareness-raising actions.

Hervé Bossin and Karine Wong-Sung

Summary of field activities

The interventions took place every week, from Monday to Friday, between April and June 2025, exclusively on Motu Onetahi. Activities included:

- regular entomological monitoring, including trap monitoring,
- the installation of 24/7 active traps powered by electricity and solar panels.
- the release of incompatible male mosquitoes (T2I) *Aedes polynesiensis*,
- the release of sterile male mosquitoes (SIM) *Aedes aegypti*,

Impacts and preliminary results

Field observations confirm the positive effect of the training and awareness-raising actions carried out in April 2025.

Concrete efforts were observed from the hotel staff, including:

- storing equipment in a sheltered place,
- the elimination of potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes,
- better management of the immediate environment.

These changes contribute to strengthening the effectiveness of the TIS and T2I techniques. In addition, demonstrations of sterile male mosquito releases were carried out among hotel guests, who showed interest and appreciation for this ecological and non-chemical strategy.

Perspectives

The program will continue with:

- maintaining weekly releases of sterile and incompatible male mosquitoes,
- an annual mission including a new inspection of larval breeding sites and training of staff in good practices.

A scientific publication is in preparation to share the results obtained on the effectiveness of the incompatible insect technique (T2I) in a real operational context.

4

ECOLOGICAL ALTERATIONS BY THREE INTRODUCED SPECIES

Rare case of brown booby nests with 3 eggs

Collaborators: *Michael Demortier, UPF doctoral student, Simon Ducatez, IRD research fellow, Jayna DeVore, UPF research engineer*

Affiliation: *University of French Polynesia, UMR 241 SECOP (UPF, IFREMER, ILM, IRD), Research Delegation of French Polynesia, Tetiaroa Society, ANR invecof*

Author: *Michael Demortier*

Date of stay: *June 2 to 16, 2025*

Number of users: *1*

4

Main objective(s)

Find out more about this project

This research project aims to better understand how three introduced species—the honeybee (Apis mellifera), the coconut palm (Cocos nucifera), and the Aedes polynesiensis mosquito—are changing the functioning of terrestrial ecosystems on Polynesian atolls. These species are widely distributed in the region, either having significant economic and social value (bees and coconut palms) or impacting public health and tourism (mosquitoes). However, their effects on biodiversity, soils, and local species remain poorly understood.
This project aims to produce knowledge useful for the restoration of biodiversity, the sustainable management of natural resources and the adaptation of atolls to climate change.

Summary of field activities

The mission took place from June 2 to 16, 2025, with Michael Demortier. It focused on several motu: Tahuna Iti, Horoāterā, and Tiaraunu.
Activities carried out included:

- monitoring of brown boobies (Sula leucogaster) laying, to observe changes in the number of nests,
- the installation of mosquito traps around nests to assess the potential impact of mosquitoes on the breeding success of birds,
- environmental measurements (pH, temperature, humidity, conductivity) in areas dominated either by coconut palms or by native plants,
- the collection of litter in these areas in order to analyze the microfauna present there,
- the collection of guano from three species of seabirds (red-footed boobies, brown boobies, brown noddies),
- the installation of cameras near certain nests to observe breeding behavior.

Data Recovery with Michael

Impacts and preliminary results

Several interesting observations were made:

- At least 20 new brown booby nests were identified on each of the three motu studied.
- Mosquito density around nests at Tahuna Iti remains very low, as during the two previous missions. This contrasts sharply with the higher densities observed on the other two motu.

These results reinforce the idea that mosquitoes can influence the reproductive success of brown boobies.

Perspectives

A new mission is planned for the end of July 2025, with similar objectives: monitoring the reproduction of brown boobies, entomological monitoring, environmental measurements, collection of data on litter and guano, and installation of cameras.
These repeated observations will allow us to better understand the links between introduced species and the ecological functioning of motu, and to enrich the data already collected to feed into future scientific publications.

5

GROUNDWATER CHEMISTRY

Contributors: *Matthew Becker, Research Professor, California State University (Long Beach), Klaus Hagedorn, Research Professor, California State University (Long Beach)*

Affiliation: *Tetiaroa Society*

Author: *Joan Robson*

Date of stay: *March 31 to April 4, 2025*

Number of users: *2*

5

Main objective(s)

The Groundwater Chemistry program aims to better understand the role of groundwater in tropical island ecosystems, particularly in atolls such as Tetiaroa.

Groundwater is a hidden but essential element in the functioning of these ecosystems: it is the main source of fresh water for many Pacific islands and transports nutrients from land to lagoons and coral reefs, thus playing a role in the phenomenon known as “Darwin’s Paradox”.

This project seeks to:

- study how nutrients circulate between different environments (soil, lagoon, reef),
- measure the influence of seabirds, whose droppings enrich the soil with nitrogen,
- and better understand how these underground systems react to rising sea levels and climate change.

Summary of field activities

The field actions consisted of:

- carry out manual drilling on several motu of Tetiaroa, notably Honuea, Tahuna Iti, Horoatera and Reiono,
- install piezometers to measure water quality at different depths,
- map transects and drilling areas,
- measure several physicochemical parameters such as:
  - temperature, pH,
  - conductivity,
  - the oxidation-reduction potential (ORP),
  - nitrate and nitrite levels (NO_2^- + NO_3^-), linked to the presence of seabirds.
- GPS recordings were made to precisely locate the measurement points, and water samples were taken for later analysis.

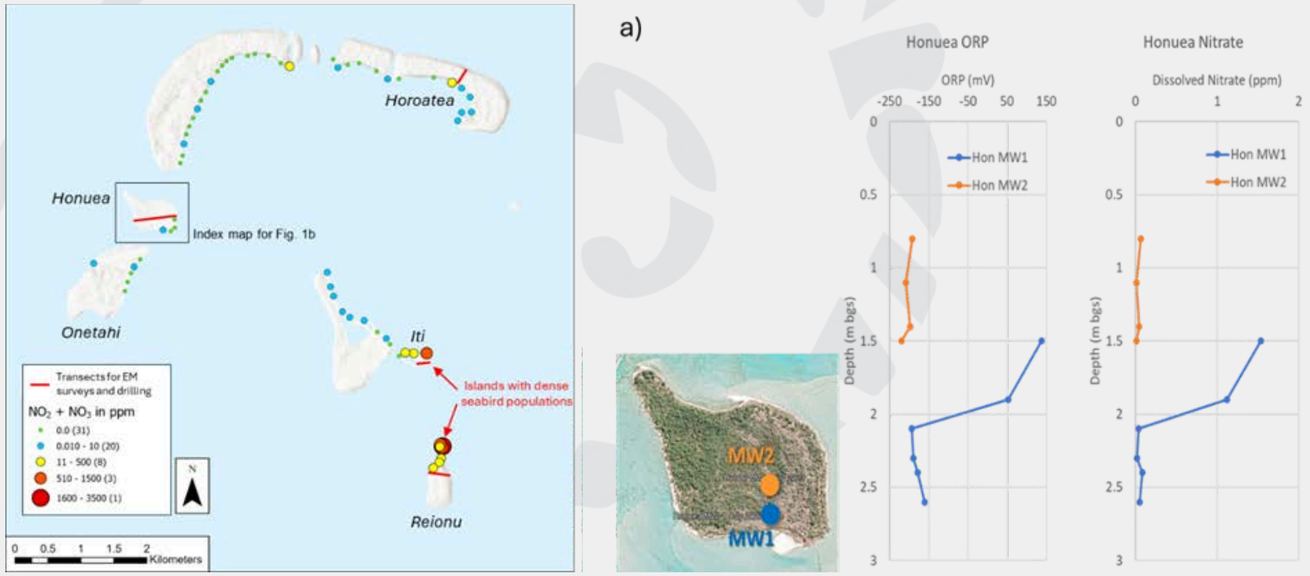
Installation of a piezometer for groundwater studies

5 Impacts and preliminary results

Find out more about this project

Initial results suggest:

- a clear correlation between areas of high seabird density and high nitrate concentrations in groundwater, particularly on Tahuna Iti and Reiono;
- Clear differences were observed between areas with many birds and those with fewer, particularly in the composition of groundwater. In Honuea, the water in areas rich in birds contains more nitrates, and its chemical balance also shows an environment richer in oxygen or specific chemical reactions;
- the presence of nutrient-enriched groundwater flows that can potentially supply nutrients to lagoons and reefs



Map of sampling sites and groundwater chemical profiles on Honuea

Perspectives

Next steps will include:

- the complete analysis of samples collected in the field,
- the crossing of chemical data with biological data (e.g.: bird density),
- modeling of underground nutrient flows,
- and the publication of results to assist in the sustainable management of water resources and vulnerable island ecosystems.

6

YELLOW CRAZY ANTS

Lusiano and Marie ready for spreading

Collaborators: *Jayna DeVore, research engineer, UPF (UMR SECOPOL, Tahiti), Simon Ducatez, IRD (UMR SECOPOL, Tahiti), Solène Fabre, coordinator of the program on Tetiaroa, Hina Patii, volunteer.*

Affiliation: *Tetiaroa Society*

Author: *Joan Robson*

Date of stay: *May 19 to 23, 2025*

Number of users: *2*

Main objective(s)

Find out more about this project

The program aims to eradicate populations of yellow crazy ants (Anoplolepis gracilipes) identified on certain motus of the Tetiaroa atoll. This invasive species represents a major threat to local biodiversity, particularly populations of land crabs and seabirds.

The objective is to eliminate these colonies by targeted spraying of insecticide solution, while ensuring rigorous post-treatment monitoring.

Solène, Maxime, Marie, Hina, Lusiano

Summary of field activities

A spreading mission took place from May 19 to 23, 2025. It required several logistical stages:

- Monday, May 19 (afternoon): preparation of the solution
- Tuesday, May 20: filling and deployment of the buckets after 24 hours of rest on Horoatera
- Wednesday, May 21: spraying on the motu Horoatera
- Thursday, May 22: deployment of buckets and spreading on motu Aie.

These operations involved interdisciplinary teamwork between staff from the Tetiaroa Society and The Brando.

Wednesday, May 21 – Motu Horoatera: Lusiano Kolokilagi – Ranger, Tetiaroa Society; Joan Robson – Operations Assistant, Tetiaroa Society; Hina Patii – Regular collaborator of the Tetiaroa Society, having also participated in the rat eradication program; Karine Wong-Sung – Louis Malardé Institute - Tetiaroa Society; Marie Salaün – Reception, The Brando Hotel; Miri Pea – Housekeeping, The Brando Hotel

Thursday, May 22 – Motu Aie: Solène Fabre – Scientific Coordinator, Tetiaroa Society; Lusiano Kolokilagi – Ranger, Tetiaroa Society; Hina Patii – Field collaborator, Tetiaroa Society; Marie Salaün – Reception, The Brando Hotel; Maxime Courroux – Maintenance, The Brando Hotel

Inspections were carried out in areas susceptible to the presence of yellow crazy ants. No signs of reinfestation were detected during this mission.

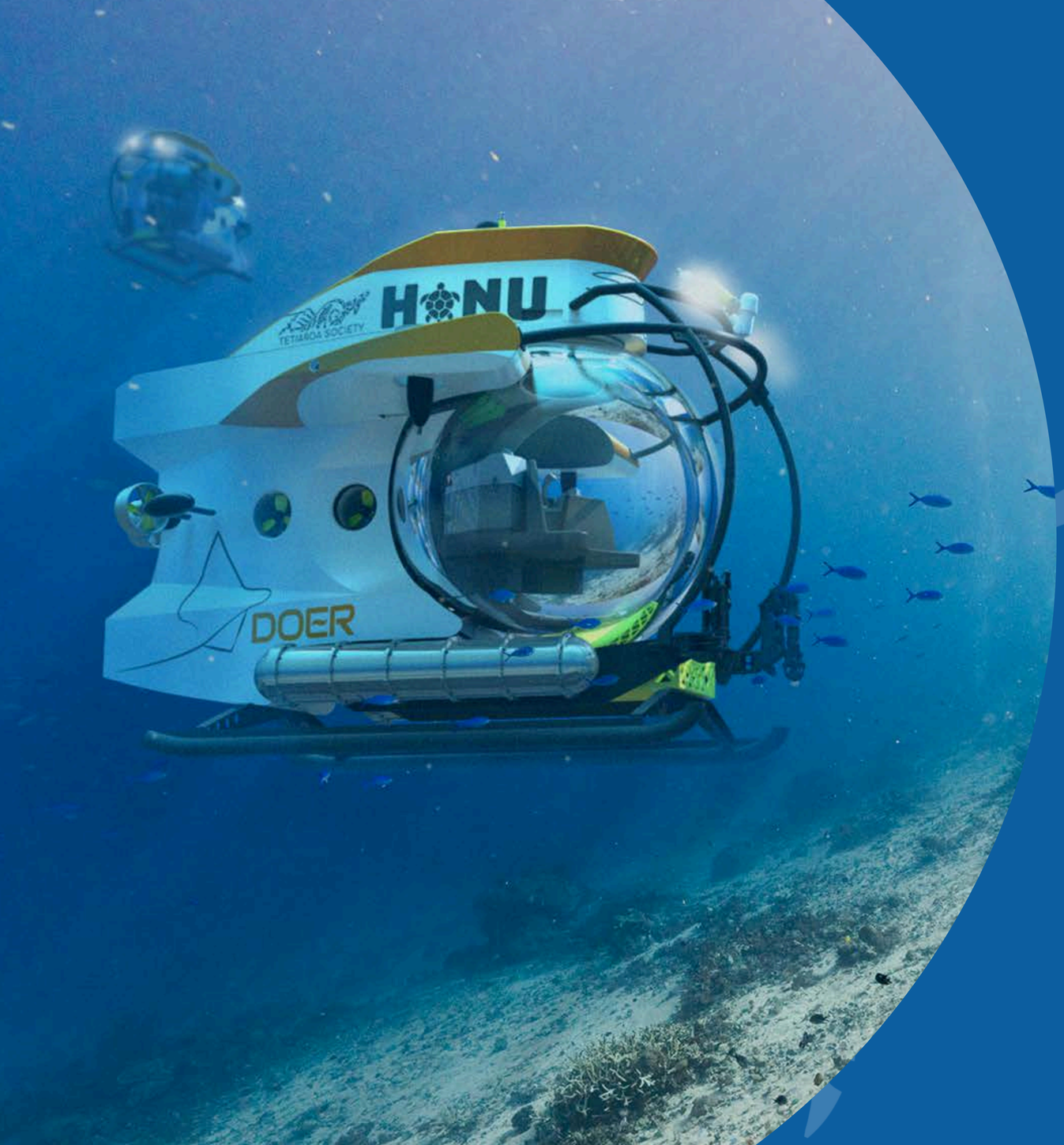
Impacts and preliminary results

The treatment was successfully completed on the motus of Horoatera and Aie, with all targeted areas properly covered. During this mission, no recolonization by yellow crazy ants was observed, which is an encouraging sign regarding the effectiveness of previous treatments. The strong mobilization of the Tetiaroa Society teams, supported by several staff members from The Brando hotel, enabled the operations to be carried out under good conditions. This collaboration between different departments demonstrates the importance of collective effort to ensure the success of conservation actions on the atoll.

Perspectives

Eradicating yellow crazy ants remains a complex challenge, requiring:

- Increased monitoring of treated motus
- Corrective spreading if recolonization is detected.
- Maintaining active collaboration with the hotel teams for a rapid and effective response.
- Regular awareness-raising and training activities for partner teams to sustain the efforts undertaken.



HONU SUBS PROJECT

Scientific program

TETIAROA SOCIETY

Main objective(s)

Find out more about this project

The Honu project aims to develop and operate dual-classified submersibles, both research and recreational, designed to explore the deep sea in a scientific, educational, and accessible manner. These submersibles, based on the research vessel Teremoana, will be tasked with collecting data, sampling, and enabling a better understanding of deep-sea ecosystems in French Polynesia and beyond.

Technical advances

- Collaboration with ABS: DOER works with the classification society ABS to obtain dual certification (research + recreational) of submersibles.
- Plan optimization: Final adjustments to adapt the submersibles to the Teremoana ship.
- Technical development in progress: design and testing of thrusters for propulsion, assembly of manipulator arms (sample collection, underwater work).
- Order of key equipment: USBL (underwater location), Underwater Telephone (communications), Hydrophone (sound recording), selection in progress for cameras, sonar, and autonomous navigation instruments.
- Digital Infrastructure: Discussions with ESRI to create a GIS (Geographic Information System) environment to store, visualize and share the collected data.

Human dynamics

- Team preparation: Organization of training in submersible operations (piloting, maintenance, communication) planned for October in Curaçao, with candidates already identified.
- International visibility of the project: Tetiaroa Society's participation in UNOC (Nice) and the One Ocean Science Congress has strengthened the project's profile and enabled discussions to be established with numerous scientific and political stakeholders involved in deep-sea issues.

Perspectives

In the next quarter we will begin preparations for the reception of submersibles in Polynesia:

- Logistical preparation: Setting up hangars and land-based facilities to accommodate the submersibles in Polynesia.
- Tests et assemblages :
  - Carrying out pressure tests on acrylic spheres
  - Continued assembly and testing of technical subsystems by DOER.
  - The complete final assembly of the submersibles is planned for the winter.

EDUCATION & CULTURE

Educational and cultural program

TETIAROA SOCIETY

HA'APITI SCHOOL CM2.1

Author: *Aurélien Biret (reference teacher) – with the support of the educational team (Sylvie, Haiata, Magali)*

Date of stay: *From Wednesday May 7 to Monday May 12, 2025*

Number of accompanying persons: *5 accompanying persons (3 women, 2 men), including 1 teacher*

Number of students: 22 CM2 students (13 girls, 9 boys)

Background and objectives

This educational and cultural trip to the Tetiaroa atoll was organized to allow Year 5 students to discover the island's biodiversity and cultural heritage. It aimed to reinforce the values of respect, mutual aid, and environmental awareness, and to encourage children to make responsible choices in their daily lives.

Learning through experience:

The students spent 5 nights immersed in a protected island environment. They actively participated in environmental awareness workshops (turtle conservation, marine biodiversity, waste management), cultural rituals (welcome to the Paepae, construction of a Karuru, rehearsal of songs and dances), and supervised scientific activities (Green Tour with Mr. Tihoni Maire, presentation of bird species, effects of the tide on corals).

The stay encouraged their autonomy, their critical thinking and their curiosity.

Culture, environment and commitment

The children learned about the marae of Tetiaroa, the history of the Māite, the sacred roles of the turtle in Polynesian culture, and the importance of seabirds for the atoll's balance. They participated in craft workshops (weaving, Land Art), a waste collection (17.4 kg collected), and a water hike to observe the natural effects on the reefs. A message of respect and cultural transmission was present at every step.

HA'APITI SCHOOL CM2.2

Author: *Mrs. Teraimateata PERELLI with the support of the educational team (Sylvie and Haiata)*

Date of stay: *Wednesday, May 14 to Monday, May 19, 2025*

Number of accompanying persons: *5 accompanying persons (4 women, 1 man)*

Number of students: *25 (14 girls, 11 boys)*

Background and objectives

This educational and cultural trip was part of a project to explore the Teti'aroa atoll. Its goal was to help students better understand and preserve local biodiversity, while promoting their own cultural and linguistic heritage. The program also aimed to raise children's awareness of environmentally friendly behavior and encourage them to make responsible choices in their daily lives.

Learning through experience:

The students actively participated in various educational activities in the field: planting mo'o 'ape, composting, building a traditional shelter (karuru), weaving coconut palms, land art around the turtle, educational games in Tahitian language, and musical quizzes. They also attended scientific presentations on the conservation projects led by Tetiaroa Society, particularly on the eradication of invasive species (rats and crazy ants). These practical experiences fostered a better understanding of environmental issues and the role of each person in the preservation of ecosystems.

Culture, environment and commitment

The immersion in Polynesian culture began with a traditional welcoming ceremony on the pae pae of the Paepaeroa site, followed by a guided tour of five marae. The students also learned about the history and use of ma'ite. At Honu'ea, they learned about the importance of seabirds and local flora. They participated in a collective waste collection (56 kg collected) and learned to distinguish between traditional and illegal turtle fishing. All of the presentations and workshops helped strengthen their commitment to the environment and cultural heritage.

UNOC 2025

United Nations Ocean Conference

TETIAROA SOCIETY

International mobilization on the ocean

In June 2025, Tetiaroa Society participated in the 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC), held in Nice, France. For two weeks, the voices of Tetiaroa and the small islands of the Pacific were heard in a global mobilization for ocean conservation and the resilience of island territories.
This major event was marked by several scientific, political and partnership highlights, which allowed Tetiaroa Society to share its unique approach, based on research, innovation, culture and sustainable tourism.

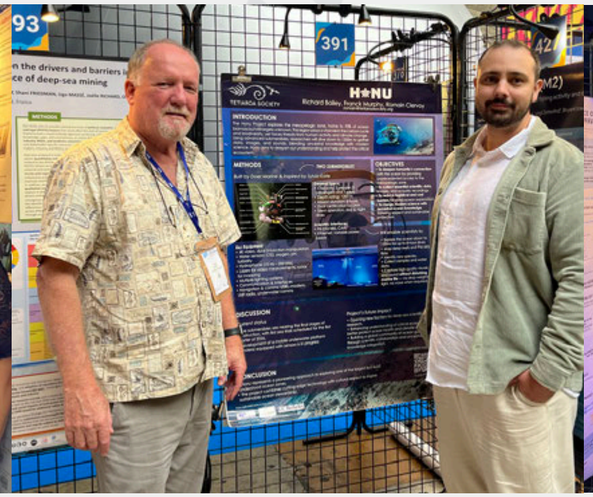
An active scientific presence

At the One Ocean Science Congress (June 3–5), which brought together more than 2,000 international experts, Tetiaroa Society presented several scientific posters presented in partnership with international scientific institutions, including:

- Tetiaroa Atoll Restoration Program (TARP), by Simon Ducatez (IRD) and Jayna DeVore
- HONU Project, on the exploration of the mesopolagic zone by submersibles, by Romain Clervoy and Franck Murphy
- SWAC Techno-Economic Analysis, par Frank Lucas

Additionally, on June 11, Simon Ducatez hosted a scientific conference dedicated to the Atoll Ecological Restoration Program (TARP), illustrating the concrete results obtained since the eradication of rats and the ecological perspectives for the atoll's key species.

Simon Ducatez & Jayna DeVore



Franck Murphy & Romain Clervoy


Franck Lucas

TARP Conference by Simon Ducatez

Blue Zone - Pacific Deep Sea Conference

A strong political and strategic commitment

On June 9, Tetiaroa Society participated in the major event organized in the Blue Zone, alongside French Polynesia, Wallis and Futuna, New Caledonia, Palau, and institutions such as Ifremer, IRD, the University of French Polynesia, and the French Polynesia Maritime Cluster. Entitled "The Underwater Ecosystems of French Polynesia: A Space to Explore and Protect," this event brought together many decision-makers and committed figures: Sylvia Earle (Mission Blue), the Minister of Overseas France Manuel Valls, the President of French Polynesia, the President of Palau, and Richard Bailey.

A conference with Te mana o te moana

Alongside Te mana o te moana, Tetiaroa Society also hosted a conference retracing nearly 20 years of commitment to island ecosystems, combining testimonials, feedback, and forward-looking vision. The legendary Sylvia Earle, founder of Mission Blue, a pioneer in marine exploration, was also able to share a few words on our shared commitment to a protection model based on science, culture, and collective action.

Te Mana O Te Moana Conference with Sylvia Earle as key witness

SMILO teams with Tetiaroa Society and Te Mana O te Moana

A new alliance strengthened between small islands

On June 11, Tetiaroa Society and Te Mana O Te Moana formalized their membership in the Sustainable Small Islands Alliance, led by the NGO SMILO – Small Islands Organisation. This important step strengthens cooperation between islands of less than 150 km², committed to shared, sustainable, and innovative governance.

BECOME A GUARDIAN OF TETIAROA

BY SUPPORTING THE ASSOCIATION

This second quarter was marked by a surge of openness and influence.
Tetiaroa Society spoke internationally at the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice. For two weeks, our teams presented projects, research, and commitments, affirming the role of small islands in building concrete solutions for the future of the oceans.

On the ground, the momentum has not weakened: welcoming local and international classes who have come to discover the richness of this ecosystem, reinforced ecological monitoring, technical innovations in mosquito control, exploration of the interactions between introduced species and local biodiversity... Each program is progressing, in close collaboration with the scientific community, partners and Polynesian stakeholders.

These complementary actions, both local and global, reflect the same commitment: to build, from the atoll, an anchored, resilient, transmissible model.

Thank you for making this possible. Thank you for joining us on this adventure where research meets teaching, where culture illuminates innovation, and where every step counts in preserving a unique place.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TRUST AND SUPPORT FOR OUR MISSIONS.

TETIAROA SOCIETY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